

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A steering wheel comprising a steering wheel body and a switch operation portion;

the steering wheel body comprises a steering wheel core including a ring core of a ring portion, a boss core of a boss portion, and a plurality of spoke cores of spokes, the ring portion being held in steering, the boss portion being located in the center of the ring portion, the spokes connecting the ring portion and the boss portion;

upon self-alignment of the steering wheel, the steering wheel body has the ring plane thereof displaced toward the vertical plane by means of plastic deformation of the steering wheel core;

the switch operation portion is disposed in at least one of two spokes located in the front side, the two front spokes neighboring a front space inside the ring portion and being arranged generally symmetrically relative to the boss portion; and

the cores of the front spokes comprise deformable portions, respectively, at positions generally symmetric relative to the boss portion and toward the boss portion relative to the switch operation portion, whereby the front spoke cores are twist-deformable upon self-alignment.

2. The steering wheel according to Claim 1, wherein each of the front spoke cores further comprises, at a position toward the ring portion relative to the deformable portion, a second deformable portion which is twist-deformable upon self-alignment.

3. The steering wheel according to Claim 1, wherein the switch operation portion is screw-fixed to the front spoke core at only one position.

4. The steering wheel according to Claim 1, further comprising a pad above the boss portion, wherein:

the pad is joined to a core of a rear spoke and held thereat, the rear spoke being located rearward of the front spokes; and the rear spoke core comprises a plastically deformable portion at a position forward of the joint with the pad, the deformable portion being plastically deformable upon self-alignment.